A RELATION

OF THE

DIABOLICAL PRACTICES

Of above Twenty WIZARDS and

WITCHES

Of the Sheriffdom of *Renfrew*, in the

Kingdom of Scotland,

CONTAIN'D,

In their *Tryalls*, *Examinations*, and *Confessions*;

And for which several of them have been *Executed* this Present Year, 1697.

LONDON,

Printed for *Hugh Newman* at the *Grashopper* in the *Poultry*.

To Sir *T. M.*

SIR,

ACcording to your Requeſt, I ſend you Inclos'd the Proceedings of the Commiſſioners appointed by the Lords of His Majeſtys moſt Honourable Privy Councill, for enquiring into the *Witches* and *Witchcrafts* in the Shiriffdome of *Renfrew*, of which I have had Opportunity of knowing more than many others, as having been with the Commiſſioners on the Tryalls; And ſhall add nothing here, ſave what paſſed at the firſt *Dyet* of the *Tryall*, which was at *Paiſlaw*, where were Met of the Commiſſioners, my Lord *Blantyre*, my Lord *Halcraig*, Sir *John Maxwell* of *Polock*, Mr. *Francis Montgomery*, *Blackhall*, *Ducball*, with ſeveral others, to the Number of Eleven. There was Deputed in the room of the King's Advocate, Three Advocates, *viz.* Mr. *John Menzies*, Mr. *Grant* and Mr. *Stuart*. The *Panalls* being 21 in number, were frequently call'd to ſee if they could be brought to Confeſſion; They were Confronted with *Bargarens* Daughter, and the three *little Confeſſors*, *Elizabeth Anderſon*, and the two *Lindſays*. But they ſtill deny'd all: which put the Court to Cull out 7 of them, againſt whom *Threatnings*, and ſome *Malifice* following could be proven. Theſe were *Margaret Lang*, in *Cartinpan*, a Woman Famous for *Religion*, ever ſince the 60 year of God, and really a Perſon of extraordinary *Gravity* and *Wiſdom*; I know not whether to call it *Natural* or *Diabolical*; but I have never heard a Woman ſpeak ſo *Gravely*, *Pertinently*, and *Religiouſly* both to the *Miniſters* and *Judges* then ſhe did. The other were *Katharine Campbell*, *Agnes Naſmith*, *John* and *James Lindſays*, *Agnes Foſtur*, and *Margaret Fulton*: This *Kate Cambell* is a young Well-favour'd Laſs, 20 years of Age; but the reſt moſt part Old, both Men and Women.

The Commiſſioners, after their firſt Aſſay to have them confeſs, before they brought them to a Formal Tryal, would have them Try'd by Pricking, which really to me ſeems ſtrange, for there was not any of them, ſave *Margaret Fulton*, but *Marks* were found on them, which were altogether *Inconſible*, That a Needle of 3 Inches length was frequently put in without their Knowledge, nor would any blood come from theſe places, and tho many, eſpecially *Doctors*, ridicul'd theſe as *Storys*, yet after we cal'd Dr. *Bisbin* and *Baird*, and let them ſee a Needle

of a great length put into the top of one of the *Vertibræ* of the Back, and one into *Margaret Lang*, a handbrendth beneath her Ribbs in the Region of the Lower Belly, they both thought it wonderful, being in a place where, in another Woman, the Needle could not but peirce the Guts: All the other 14 were also prickt and marks found in most of them. But I was most concern'd for *Martha Semple* Daughter to *Margaret Lang*, who was most exactly search'd twice, yet no mark found; tho the pricker mist not to search the very *Soles* of her *Feet* and other more *Secret Places*, for when there was any difficulty to find the mark they did quite uncloath them, but then it was in a Room, and not publickly, before one or two of the *Justices*, a *Minister*, one of the *Advocates* and the *Clark*, my Lord *Halcraig* and I were only present with *Martha*; but realy she is as well *Favoured* and *Genuile* a Lass as you'l look on, and about 17 or 18 years of Age, I took up Mr. *Wylie* to her to see if he could bring her to any Confession, he spoke long to her but she deny'd all notwithstanding of what you see in the Enclosed paper, but she was the only person amongst them all that ever I saw Weep.

They were at last on the 15*th*. of *April* to have been brought to their Tryall, after 3 or 4 days trifling with them by pricking, and to bring some of them to Confession, but just as the Assize was constituted they mov'd to have a little more time to provide themselves *Advocates*, which the *Justices* yeilded to, and adjourn'd to the 2*d*. *Tuesday* of *May*, and in this Interval the two Brothers did Confess, and upon Examination said the same things that the two *Lindsays* and *Anderson* had declared, as you have it in the within Paper. Another Man also confess'd, But the *Devil* Strangled him in Prison, for he was found sitting in a Chair with a Cord about his Neck but slack and ty'd to no thing. After the Adjournment the *Judges* met again, and having Sufficient Evidence of several *Malefices* done by each of the Seaven above-named, with the Testimonys of the five Confessing *Witches*, all concuring in the same Acts, Sentene'd them to be burn'd the 10*th*. of *June*, which was accordingly Executed. The other 14 being Respited till the *Kings* Advocates Pleasure, among whom is one *Morison* Wife to *Francis Duncan* in *Greenock* call'd in the Paper the *Devils Gentlewife Antiochia*, on whom many marks are found; of which you'l receive further Information by the Inclosed to which I refer you, and am, Sir,

Your most obliged & Humble Servant,

T. P.

A

NARATIVE

Of the *RECOGNITION*

Taken by the *Commissioners*, Appointed by the *Lords of His Majesties Privy-Council*, for Enquiring into the *Witchcrafts*, and *Witches*, in the *Shirrifdom* of *Renfrew*; with Relation to the Afflicted Case of *Christian Shaw*, Daughter to the Laird of *Bargarren*.

At the Place of *Bargarren*,
Feb. 5. 1697.

Present, the Lord *Blantyre*, &c.

THE said *Christian Shaw*, being Confronted with one *James Lindsay* (whom *Elizabeth Anderson*, one of the Confessing *Witches* Under-written Declared, Was one of the said *Christians* Troublers in her Fits) Did, upon

Touching the said *James*, take a very Violent Fit, Leaping, Starting and Staring, with such a Stiffning of all her Joynts, that it was hard for the Assistants to keep her from Falling, and, at last, fell, as quite Dead, and Senseless, for some time; and, after Recovery, being Confronted with one *Catherine Campbell*, who being once Servant to her *Father*, for a Miss-representation of her to her Mistress, *Curst her*; and is the Alledg'd Instrument of all the said *Christian* her Trouble. The said *Katherine* being by the said *Commissioners* Interrogate on several Points, in the Hearing of the said *Christian*, she Deny'd all, and particularly her Accession to the said *Christian* her Trouble, or the Rise thereof. But the Child still Charging her, Conjured her to tell the *Commissioners*, Why she would never Pray, *That God would deliver her from that Ill, and Restore her well again.* *Katherine* did not disown her Refusal, but shifted about for frivolous Excuses which the *Commissioners* bearing home on her, as a Great Argument of her Guilt; and finding she could hardly evade the Force of it, *Katherine* offers to run at the Child (they being then at some distance from one another) and the Child did all she could to shun her Touch. *Katherine* Complained, saying, *Now I would Pray for her, but she will not let me.* But the Child being forc'd to suffer her Touch by the By-standers, tho most Unwillingly, and with great Fear, she immediately after fell down, in a most Violent Fit, as before, on *James Lindsay*'s Touch: But thereupon *Katherines* Tongue was loosed, and she said, *The Lord Bless her, The Lord Deliver her*; which nothing could Oblige her to do before: And the Child her self declared, after that Fit, and *Katherines* Prayer, she now found her self free of all Fear to Touch the said *Katherine*, or any other of her Tormentors.

The *Commissioners* were then Earnest with *Katherine*, to tell why she would, or could not *Pray* before she Touch'd the Child? But, to this, she could give no Satisfactory Answer.

Afterwards the *Commissioners* call'd a *Young Damsel*, Nam'd *Elizabeth Anderson*, whom they found a very Useful Person in the said Enquiry, as being many times admitted by her

Father

Father, and other *Friends*, to their Meetings with the *Devil* as her Confeſſion hereto Subjoyned does Evidence, to which you are Referr'd. As alſo the *Commiſſioners* having Examin'd *Chriſtian Shaw*, about the Perſons Repreſented to her as her Tormentors in thoſe Fits; and finding her Teſtimony Confirmed by *Elizabeth Anderſon* her Confeſſion, with relation to many of the Perſons Accuſed by *Chriſtian*. The *Commiſſioners*, on that Evidence, Ordered them all to Priſon, (viz.) *Alexander Anderſon*, Father to the ſaid *Elizabeth*, *Agnes Naſmith*, *John Lindſay* in *Barreloch*, *John Lindſay* in *Formachin*, *James Lindſay* his Brother, *Agnes Faſter*, *Margaret Fulton*, and the ſaid *Katherine Campbell*, where they are to lie till farther Orders. But the ſaid *Chriſtian Shaw* knows and remembers another Perſon, whom ſhe declares ſhe has not the Power to Name: And ſhe has many times attempted it, but is ſtill ſeized with Fits when ſhe Aſſays to Expreſs it; She came, at laſt, to ſay, for her firſt Name, *Margaret*, or *Pincht Margaret* (a Name given her by the *Devil*, from a Pincht Croſs-Cloath, ordinarily worn on her Brow)-But cannot expreſs her Patronimick, or Surname. The *Commiſſioners* were ſo concern'd at this, that they urged her to Write it, which being loth to try for fear of Torture, ſhe nevertheleſs eſſayed it; And beginning to Write other Names, ſhe was deſir'd to try that too, but could Write no more ſave *Margaret*, and the Letter *L.* of her Sirname, being preſently taken with a moſt Violent Fit, the Pen falling out of her hand, and ſhe falling Dead, as above, with Groans, heavier and ſorer then ordinary. Within a while the *Commiſſioners* having caus'd her to take a little of a Julip, after her Recovery, ſome Miniſters ſtanding by, Preſented her with a Bible, deſiring her to Read a Paſſage in it, which they pointed to her; but no ſooner had ſhe caſt her eyes on the Book, but inſtead of Reading, ſhe fell to Sing a very Melodious Tune, ſuch as is uſed in *Opera's*; and, within a little while after fell in her Fits again, and even then the Muſick ceas'd not, tho ſhe appear'd as one dead, with her Mouth open, but neither her Lips nor Tongue ſtirring, She remain'd long in the Fit, till one of the *Commiſſioners*,

desir'd the Book might be Clos'd; which done, she Immediately came to her Self, and being Askt what she meant by Singing, when she was desir'd to Read, she was not sensible she had Sung, and declar'd she did not remember it.

Bargarren-Place. Febr. 5. 1697.

Elizabeth Anderson, Daughter to *Alexander Anderson*, Aged 17 years, or thereby, Declared that about 20 days ago, she was Invited by her Father, to go along with him to *Bargarrens* Yeard, about Twelve a Clock in the Day, who went both together; and having come there, they met with ane Black Man, who had ane Bonnet on his Head, and a Band about his Neck, whom her Father, and *Agnes Nasmith*, then present, told her, He was the *Devil* And that there was in Company with that Black Man, whom she thought was the *Devil*, the Persons following; *viz.* the said *Alexander Anderson* her Father, *Agnes Nasmith* in Park of *Erskin*, *John Lindsay* in *Formaken*, call'd, The *Bishop*, *James Lindsay* his Brother, *Margaret Fulton*, Spouse to *Robert Wallace* in *Kilpatrick*, and Sister to the Grandmother of the said *Elizabeth*, who Dyed in *Paisley* Tolbooth, Accused of *Witchcraft* above half ane Year since, or thereby. And that their Discourse was at that time concerning *Christian Shaw*, Daughter to the Laird of *Bargarren*, who was then not well, and whose Life they all promis'd to take away by Stopping of her Breath; and that she saw the *Devil* several times before in her Fathers House, in Company with her Father, and several others. And that the *Devil*, with the Company foresaid Danc'd all in the said Yeard the time foresaid. And that her Father Discharged her to tell any thing she saw, or else she would be Torn in

in pieces; And that she was more Affraied of the forsaid Persons, then she was of the *Devil*. And being Examin'd whether or no any Person in the Company foresaid Desired her to Ingage in the *Devil*'s Service? She declared, That both the *Devil* and her Father Invited her several times to the *Devil*'s Service, Promising to Reward her for her paines But that she altogether refus'd to Ingage therein: And that notwithstanding thereof, she went along to the forsaid Yeard, to the said Meeting with her Father; Where she heard the *Devil* say, That no body would see them: At which the forsaids Persons then present did Laugh. And being asked, If she was Affraid when she saw the *Devil* in the Yeard? She Declared, She was Fear'd not, because she had seen him several times before.

Elizabeth Anderſons Additional Confeſſion, who Compear'd, and being Examin'd upon the Point of *Witchcraft*, Declared the Particulars following.

Renfrew, Feb. 18. 97.

THat about Seven years since or thereabouts, the said *Elizabeth Anderſon* was with the Deceas'd *Jean Fulton*, her Grandmother; and playing about the door of the House she saw ane Black grim Man go into the House to her Grandmother; who abode with her a considerable space, talking with her; and afterward she came to the door, and desired the said *Elizabeth Anderſon* to come in; and upon her incoming, desired her to take the Gentleman (as she named him) by the

the Hand, and she would give her ane Bony Black new Coat, which accordingly she did; which seemed to her very cold: whereupon she was affraid, and immediatly he vanished and went away. About a Month after her Grandmother and she were both in the House together, when the aforesaid Gentleman appeared to them, (which the said *Elizabeth* then suspected to be the Devil) and he and her Grandmother fell a talking together, by rounding in others Ears, but understood not what they said; and afterward her Grandmother desired her to take the Gentleman by the hand, but she refusing, saying, It was the Devil, which her Grandmother denying, said, it was a Gentleman a Friend of hers; and she still insisting and threatning her if she would not take him by the hand, she would get none of her Cloaths, but the said *Elizabeth Anderson* would not be perswaded to do it, but saved her self from him, saying, the Lord be between me and him, whereupon her Grandmother said, she need not fear for it was no ill thing, and upon that the Devil went away in a Flight, she knew not how; and declares, for a long time after, she was no more troubled with the said Gentleman. Till one time her Father *Alexander Anderson* desired her to go with him through the Country to seek their Meat; to which she replyed, she need not go seek her Meat, seeing she might have Work: But her Father pressing her, she went with him, where he took her to ane *Muir* in *Kilmacolme*, where were gathered together, before they came, *Agnes Nasmith*, *Margaret Fulton*, *John Lindsay*, called *Bishop*, *James Lindsay*, called *Curat*, ane *Heigh-land Body*, *Katherine Campbel*, ane *Gentlewife* called by them *Antiochia*, *Thomas Woodrow's Wife* in *Carsiup*, *Margaret Lang* in *Cartinpan*, and her Daughter, *Martha Semple*, *John Read Smith*, *John Stuart* and his *Wife*, *Annable Read*, *Margaret Sheret*, *Margaret Rodger* in *Park*, *Janet Rodger* her Sister, *Robert Wallace* in *Kilpatrick*, *Allason* there, *Thomas Birkmyers* Wife in *Stamme-butts*, and several others whom she does not know or remember, when the aforesaid Gentleman who appeared to her formerly, came to the said *Elizabeth Anderson*, bidding her Renounce her Baptism, promising her if she would consent thereto, she should be better then she was then, and she would get better Meat and better Cloaths, and she would

not

not need to beg. But (as she declared) she would not Consent to him; And he enquired of her, What brought her thither? then she replied, That she came with her Father. Whereupon the Devil and her Father went together, and talked to one another; but she knew not where about: And declares that the cause of her meeting at that time (as she said) was about the forming of a Picture, of Mr. *William Flemings* Minister at *Innerkeyth* his Child, who at that time effected the same; the Main Actors being, her Father, *Agnes Nasmith*, *Margaret Fulton*, *Isabel Cochran*, and some others, who at that time put in Pins both small and great; but their Master told them they behoved to have some other thing before it could take Effect. As also she Confesses, she was present at ane Meeting with that Crew, above the Town of *Kilpatrick*, where were present her Father, Mother, and Sister, *Margaret Lang* and her Daughter, *Margaret Fulton*, *Agnes Nasmith*, *Margaret Rodger* and her Sister *Janet*, *Margaret Sherer*, *Robert Wallace* in *Kilpatrick*, with the foresaid Gentleman, whom they called their Lord; where they formed ane Picture of Mr. *John Ritchie* Minister of *Kilpatrick* his Child, and they all Stabed Pins in the same, both great and small; and heard the said *Margaret Rodger* say, stay a little till I stop ane Pin in the Heart of it, which accordingly she did. And declares, she went with her Father to the *Ferrie-Boat* of *Erskin*, where he took her on his Back over the Water to *Kilpatrick* in a Flight. Farther Confesses, To have been present at the Drowning of *Brighouse*, and the *Ferrier* of *Erskin*, where was present in the Boat, the Devil, her Father and Mother, *William Miller* at *Formakin*, the *Ferriers Mother-in-Law*, *Margaret Fulton*, and some others; and there were on *Erskin* side of the Water *John Lindsay* the *Bishop*, *James Lindsay*, the Curat, *Margaret Cochran*, , *Tarbet*, *Jonnet Waugh*, *Margaret Sherer*, *Margaret Lang*, and her *Daughter*, *John Stuart*, and his *Wife*, the *Highland Body*, *Catherin Campbel*, and several others, with her Self; and heard them say, That they would have saved one of the Horse, but they could not get it done, unless they had saved also one of the Men which were Drounded, and which she believes was *John Glen*,

had

had not his Mother-in-Law prevented it. Moreover she declares, she was present at the putting down of a Child of *William Montgomrie* in *Bargarrans Land*, where were present *Margaret Fulton* in *Kilpatrik*, *Agnes Naſmith*, her Father Mother and Siſter, *John* and *James Lindſays*, Bishop and Curat, *Margaret Lang*, in *Cartinpan*, *Janet Waugh*, *Margaret Sherer*, *Thomas Woodrouſe's Wife* in *Carſtap*, *Thomas Lindſay*, *James Lindſay* his *Brother*, *John Reid Smith*, and several others whom she does not know or remember, with the Black Man whom they called their Lord, about two a Clock in the Morning, where they Strangled a Child with a Sea Napkin: The Main Actors, being *Agnes Naſmith* and *Margaret Fulton*, who opened the Door of the Houſe, and after they were entred, went to the Fire and lighted ane Candle, which was blacker nor your Candles uſually are, ſomewhat blewiſh; and none in the Houſe ever ſtir'd or wakened, and they ſtayed all in the Houſe upwards of ane Hour; And declares, that she heard *Agnes Naſmith* ſay, What if the People of the Houſe awake? To which *Margaret Fulton* replyed, You need not fear. Lykeas confeſſed, That upon *Wedneſday* about five Weeks ſince or thereby, her Father brought her out of his Houſe with him, and come all the way with her on her foot to *Bargarren* out-Yeard, where they come in by ane Shap in the Yeard to ane Meeting, where where preſent *Agnes Naſmith*, *Margaret Fulton*, *John Lindſay* Bishop, *James Lindſay* Curate, *Agnes Foſter*, *the Highland Body*, *Janet Waugh*, *Margaret Sheirer* in *Eskingram*, *Margaret Lang*, *Margaret Cunningham* Spouſe to *Thomas Woodrow* in *Carſtap*, *John Read*, *Smith*, *John Steward* and his Wife, *Thomas Birkinyers* Wife, *Thomas Lindſay*, *James Lindſay* his Brother, and *Alexander Anderſon*, the Declarant, her Father; Where was alſo preſent the *Devil*, who had on ane Black Coat, ane Blew Bonnet, ane Blew Band, who Played on a Pipe, and they all Danced. At which Meeting they were Contriving and Conſulting with the foreſaid Black Man, whom they called their Lord, about the Deſtroying of *Chriſtian Shaw*, Daughter to the Laird of *Bargarren*; where ſome of them were for Stabbing her with a Touck; particularly, *Agnes Naſmith*,

smith, *Margaret Fulton*, *Margaret Rodger*, *Thomas Woodrow's* Wife, *Margaret Shaw*, and others, were for Hanging her with a Cord; particularly the *Highland Body*, *John Reed*, and his Daughter, and others for stopping her Breath, and Choaking her; and particulary *James Wright*, *John Lindsay* Bishop, *James Lindsay* his Brother, and the Gentle Wife, whom they called *Anabella*, as also Declared, that she heard some of them say, That if ever they should have a Meeting again, they should have her out of the House, and destroy her: But fearing they would be taken before they should have ane other Meeting, their Lord, as they called him, gave them ane piece of ane Unchristned Bairns Liver to eat, except her, and the other Two, who has Confessed, viz. *James* and *Thomas Lindsayes*, telling them, that though they were Apprehended, they should never Confess, do to them what they would. And farder declares, That several of them were feard, That the said *Elizabeth Anderson* should Confess and tell of them; In regard she had done it formerly. They threatned her, if she did, They would Tear her all in pieces, if ever they got their hands on her, and particularly *Margaret Lang*, who Threatned her most. And farther declares, that against the next Meeting, they intended, if they were not Apprehended, To Forme the said *Christian Shaws* Picture, and then they would gett a gett of her; And when the Meeting was ended, which continued upwards of Two houres, or thereby, they went all away in a Flight, except the said *Elizabeth Anderson*, who went home on her foot. Farder Confesses, That one Night her Father raised her out of her Bed, and took her to the Ferry-Boat of *Erskin*, where he took her on his Back, and, in a Flight, carry'd her over the Water, and went from that both together to *Dunbarton*, to the Yeard of Mr. *John Hardy*, Minister there, where were present *Agnes Naismith*, *Margaret Fulton*, *Robert Wallace* her Husband, *Margaret Lang*, and her Daughter *Martha Semple*, *Alexander Anderson*, *Thomas Woodrows* Wife, *James Lindsay*, *Thomas Lindsay* his Brother, ... Mc. *Killops*, Mother-in-Law to *John Dun* the Ferrier, *Katherin*

Campbell, the *Highland Body*, *John Lindsay* Bishop, *James Lindsay* Corat, *William Miller* in *Formakin*, the Gentlewoman called by the Crew *Antiochia*, and the foresaid Black Man, whom they called their Lord; where the foresaid *John Lindsay*, Bishop, Played on a Pype, and all Danced; at which Meeting they Formed the Picture of the said Mr. *John Hardy*, which was made of Bees-Wax, Hair, and other Materials, and Dabbed it full of Pins Small and Great, and thereafter put it amongst Water and Ale Mixed, and then put it on a Spit, which *Agnes Nasmith* and others told her, they Roasted at the Fire, the Main Actors were, the said *Agnes Nasmith*, and *Margaret Fulton*, who made the Same Picture, and when they had done they went all away in a Flight, except her Father, and her self, who come upon their Feet to the Ferry again, and carry'd her over, in a Flight as foresaids: And Declares, That the foresaid *Agnes Nasmith* got the Picture in Custody when they parted; And also Declares, That the Words that her Father spoke, when he took her on his Back, and Flew with her, were *Mount and Fly*; And also Declares, That no Person promised her any good Deed, or Reward, to make the said Confession.

Feb. 18. 1697.

James Lindsay being examined Confesses as follows, (Aged 14 years, or thereby,) That one day he met with the Deceas'd *Jean Fulton* his Grandmother at her House in *Inchannen*, wher she took from him a little *Round Cap* and a *Plack*, But being loath to part with the same, required them from her again; which she refusing, he cal'd her *an old Witch* and run away; upon which she follow'd him and cry'd, that she would meet him another time with an Ill turn: about

8 days

8 days therafter, as he was begging thorough the Country near to the Town of *Inchannes*, he met again with his Grandmother at the Back of the yard of that House at the head of the Causey, where there appear'd to him *ane Black Grim Man*, with black Cloaths, ane black Hat, and blew Band; his *Grandmother* desiring him to take the *Gentleman* by the Hand, (as she term'd him) who accordingly did as he was desired, whose hand seem'd to the said *James* to be exceeding cold, and gript him very straitly; whereupon the said Gentleman enquir'd at him, If he would serve him, and he would give him a Bonny black Coat and a black Hat, and several other things? to which he reply'd, *yes I'le do't*; and continuing there a litle time they parted, when the said Gentleman (which he knew thereafter to be the Devil) and his Grandmother went away together from him, but he knows not how. This the said *James Lindsay* declares was the first time that ever he saw the *Devil*, or engaged with him; and thereafter confesses he was frequently at Meetings with him and others, and particularly the Meetings after specify'd, besides many others: *Viz.* That about 5 Weeks before *Jennet Ker* was Apprehended he went with her to a Muir in *Kilmalcolme* Parish upon a Hill to a Meeting there about 4 a Clock in the afternoon, where were present whom he knew (besides several others whom he does not know or remember:) The said *Jennet Ker*, *Jennet Woodrow*, *Margaret Alexander*, *Margaret Cockran*, *Tarbett*, *Alexander Anderson*, and his *Wife*; *John Lindsay* Bishop, *Agnes Nesmith*, *John Lindsay* in *Barclough*, *Jennett Waugh*, *Margaret Sheirer*, *William Miller* in *Formaken*, *Margaret Lang* in *Carterpan*, *Martha Semple* her Daughter; *Kat. Ferrier* at *Craigton-burne*, *John Reid*, *John Stuart* and his *Wife*; *Patrick Lindsay* in *Formakin*, *Katherin Campbell*, ane *Highland Body*, cal'd by the Crew their Drudg; and ane White-haird Man which he says was *James Lindsay* Curat, who play'd upon a Fiddle to them and they all Danc'd with the first Gentleman, whom they cal'd their Lord, who came to the said *John Lindsay*, and took him by the Hand and forbad him to tell, at which time they were contriving about the Drowning of *Brighouse*, when

when he ſhould come over the Ferry of *Erſkin*, (the foreſaid *Jennet Ker* being the main Inſtigator) where he heard their *Lord* ſay, That if they could not get him out by the the Hairs of the Head, they would ſink the Boat and all therein, and *Jennet Woodrow* reply'd, That if they could get *Brighouſe* Drown'd alone they would be content, *John Glenn the Farrier* were ſav'd, but *Mckillops* Mother-in-Law to the ſaid *Farrier* (who was alſo preſent) ſaid in regard he had put her out of the Houſe a little while before the Meeting, ſhe ſhould have him Drown'd alſo. And likewiſe Confeſſes, That at the Comitting of the ſaid Fact, the heal forenam'd perſons were preſent with ſeveral others, except the ſaid *Jennet Woodrow* and *Jennet Ker*, who were then at that time in Priſon; and that the *Devil* was at the Head of the Boat, and *Alexander Anderſon*, *William Miller*, *the Farriers Mother-in-Law*, and *John Steward*, and his *Wife* were in the middle of the Boat, and the reſt of the Crew abovenam'd with himſelf and ſeveral others upon *Erſkin* ſide of the Water.

As alſo Confeſſes, he was preſent at the putting down of a Child of *Mathew Parks* in *Parkland*, with the Perſons abovenam'd, and ſeveral others, as *Thomas Lindſay* his *Brother*, *Elizabeth Anderſon*, Daughter to *Alexander Anderſon*, where was preſent with them ane Black-haird Man, bare-headed, in ane black Coat and a long blew Cravat, which was don late at Night about 12, when the whole Family were aſleep except ane Servant-Laſs, who waited on the Child, who at this time went to the Door a little, and in the Interim before ſhe return'd they put a Cord about the Childs Neck and Strangled it; the main Actors of the Fact being *Margaret Fulton*, and *Agnes Neſmith*, and when the Laſs came in again to the place where the Child was, they heard her cry theſe words, *Mathew*, *O Mathew*! *Mathew*! *The Bairn is Dead*; whereupon they all went away.

Note, That the foreſaid *Elizabeth Anderſon* another Confeſſant, agrees in her Confeſſion to this Article, that the bairn

Bairn was in the Cradle when the Fact was Comitted, and that when they had don they took the Cord with them. Likeas Confesses, he was present at the Strangling of a Child of *VVilliam Montgomeryi* in *Bargarrins-land*, with *Martha Lang* in *Cartampan*, *Martha Semple* her Daughter, *Thomas Lindsay* his Brother, *Margaret Rodger*, *Alexander Anderson*, and his Wife and two Daughters, *Jane and the said Elizabeth Anderson*, *John Lindsay* Bishop, *James Lindsay* Curate, and *Patrick Lindsay* his Son; *Agnes Nesmith*, *Jennet Lindsay* in *Barloch*, *Jennet VVaugh*, *Margaret Shearer*, Crooked *VVilliam Millar*, *Kath. Ferrier* in *Craigtown-burne*, *John Stewart* and his *VVife*, *Kath Campbel*, and the *Highland-body* their Drudge, and several others, whose Names he does not know or remember; Where was present the foresaid Black-hair'd Man, nothing on him but ane black Shirt, and a black Hood, cald by the Crew their Lord, where they Strangled the Child with ane Sea Napkin, and heard *Agnes Nasmith* cry *draw the Lowp*, and at theyr entring to the House *Agnes Nasmith* opened the door and went in, and the rest followed her to the Fyre syde, and lighted a Candle tending to a blewish colour, where they stayed a considerable space upwards of ane hour, and during that time none of the House awakned, for he heard one of them, to wit *Agnes Nasmith*, say, she wold keep them from Wakening; the main Actors were the foresaid *Agnes Nasmith* with *Alexander Anderson* and another Woman whom he did not know, and who is condescended on by the other twa Confessants, viz. *Thomas Lindsay* his *Brother*, and the said *Elizabeth Anderson*, to be *Margaret Fulton* in *Kilpatrick*. Furder Confesses, That upon a *VVadensday* about fyve weeks since or therby, he was taken on a sudden in a Flight, wher he was begging near to the place of *Inchannon*, from that to *Bargarrens* Orchyeard, to a Meeting with the Crew, where were *Agnes Nasmith*, the foresaid *Margaret Fulton*, his Brother *Thomas*, *John Lindsay* Bishop, *James Lindsay* Curat, the Highland Body, *Jennet VVaugh*, *Margaret Sheirer*, *Margaret Lang* and her Daughter *Martha Semple*, *Thomas VVodrow's VVife* in *Cairslop*, *John Reid* Smith, *John Stewart* and his Wife, *Thomas Birkmire* in *Stainie-butts* and his Wife, *Alexander Anderson*

and

and his Wife and twa Daughters, ane *Gentle VVife* called by their *Lord* his Wyfe *Antiochia*, and several others whome he does not know or Remember; wher the Devil theyr Lord, as they called him, played upon a Pype and they all danced; at which Meeting they ware advyseing and consulting the destroyeing of *Christian Shaw* Doughter to *Bargarren*, wher some of them ware for distroyeing and pulling down of the House upon her, some for Choaking and Stopping in Pins in her Throat, others for hanging her with a Cord, some for seeing if they could get her out of the house and distroy her. And Confesses, They all agreed to the *Forming of her Picture* against the nixt Meeting if they ever should have ane; but fearing they should be apprehended ere that tyme; theyr Master gave them all ane peece of ane Unchristned bairns Liver, excepting himselfe and other twa, viz. *Thomas Lindsay* his Brother, and *Elizabeth Anderson*, they telling them though they ware apprehended they would never Confess doe to them never so much.

Lykeas Confesses, Being in Bed in the house of *William Killoch* in *Davistown* late at Night he was taken out of his Bed in a Flight, wher he never knew till he was in *Dunbar-town*, in the yeard of Mr. *John Hardie* Minister there, where were present at the Meeting of the Crew, *Agnes Naismith*, *Margaret Fulton*, *Robert VVallace*, *Margaret Lang*, *Matthew Semple*, *Alexander Anderson*, his *VVyfe* and Daughter *Elizabeth*, *Thomas Lindsay*, his Brother who agrees to his Confession; Mc. *Killops*, Mother-in-Law to *John Glenn*, *Farrier*, *Kathrin Cumbel*, the Highland Body, *John Lindsay* Bishop, and *James* his Brother, *Thomas VVoodrow's VVyfe*, *William Miller* in *Formaken* ane *Gentle VVyfe*, called by theyr Lord his Wyfe *Antiochia*, with several others whome he knows not or remembers; where the forsaid *John Lindsay* Bishop played on a Pype, and they all Danced, at which Meeting they framed the Picture of the said Mr. *John Hardie*, and dabbed it full of Pins small and great, and thereafter put it in Water and Ale mixt and then Roasted it at the Fyre, the Main Actors being the said *Agnes Naismith* and *Margaret Fulton*, who formed the same; and when they had ended theyr Meeting, declares

he

he was taken back to his Bed again in a Flight, as ſaid is: And declairs, *Agnes Naſmith* got the Picture in Cuſtody when they parted. Furder Confeſſes, he hes ſeveral tymes appeared to the Chyld (whyte in the foot) both in *Glaſgow* and *Bargarren*, tho Invisible to Spectators, with others as *Agnes Naſmith*, and *Alexander Anderſon*, the Highland Body, (in *John Daviſons*) and *Margaret Lang* tormenting the Child, wher he declares, he and the foreſaid Perſons and ſome others were the Occaſion of the foreſaid *Chriſtian* her putting out the *Coales*, *Cinders*, *Bones*, *Hay*, *Fire*, *Sticks*, and other traſh which they put in her Mouth, intending to Chouk her. And furder acknowledges, That he and the foreſaid Perſons and others did oftimes Prick and Stab her as if it had been don by Pins, and the way and manner how he had don it was his having a Needle, which if he put in his Cloathes, her Body would be prickt and Stab'd in that place where he Stab'd the Needle, and if he ſhould put it in his Hair, that part of her Head wher he put the ſame would be Stab'd. And further declares, He was preſent when the ſaid *Chriſtian Shaw* put Pins out of her Mouth, which he and the aforeſaid perſons and others had put in, and alſo at the time of his doing theſe Arts, the ſaid *Iames* cry'd thir Words, *Help John Daviſon*, who was alſo then preſent; and alſo when the Miniſter began to pray in *Bargarrens* Houſe, the Devil, he and the reſt immediatly went away. And alſo declares, There was no Perſon promis'd him any Reward for making the foreſaid Confeſſion, and declares he cannot Write. And alſo declares, That the Devil and the reſt of the Crew cal'd *John Lindſay* Biſhop, *The Poſt*.

THomas *Lindſay* declares, That one Night lying in Bed in his Grandmothers Houſe *Jane Fulton*, late at Night there came in a Black Man, with black Cloathes, ane blew Band and black Hat, into his Grandmothers, but he being aſleep at the time, ſhe awaken'd him, deſiring him to take the Gentleman by the hand, and ſhe would give him a Black Coat, which accordingly he did, whoſe Hand;

Hand seem'd to be very Cold, and enquir'd at him, *If he would serve him, and be his Man*, and he would give him a Red Coat, which he said he would do: And thereafter he declares, The Gentleman, which he knew thereafter to be the *Devil*, went out the Broad side of the House: And Declares farther, That when he gave his Consent to *serve the Devil*, he Nipt him in the Neck, which continu'd Sore Ten dayes space. Thereafter, one day, coming by his Grandmothers House (she then being dead) as he thought, she Appeared to him, Clapping his Head, Desiring him to be a good Servant to the Gentleman to whom she had Gifted him, and forbidding him to Reveal it. And thereafter she Evanisht out of his Sight. Likeas Confesses, one Night Lying in Bed in the House of *Robert Shaw* in *Barscobe Hill*, late at Night, he was Awaken'd out of his Sleep, and taken away in a Flight, to the House of one *Mathew Park* in *Parkland*, to the Murthering of a Child of his; where were present, *Jennet Ker*, *Alexander Anderson*, and his Wife, and Daughter *Elizabeth*; *John Lindsay* Bishop, and *James Lindsay* Curate, *Agnes Nesmith*, *Margaret Fulton*, *John Lindsay* in *Barloch*, *Jennet Waugh*, *Margaret Sherer*, Crooked *William Millet*, *Margaret Lang*, her Daugter *Martha Semple*, *Katharine Ferrier*, *John Reid*, *John Stuart*, *Agnes Reid* his Wife, *Katharine Campbell*, the *Highland Body*, *James Lindsay* his own Brother, *Jane Park* in *Paisley*, *Rosa*, her Mother, and the said Gentleman, whom they call'd their Lord; where they Strangled the Child with ane Small Cord, while the whole Family were Asleep, except a Lass who Waited on the Child, who at that time went to the Door; and before she return'd, *Jennett Ker*, and *Margaret Sherer*, put the Cord about the Childes Neck, and Strangled it, and after they had done, they all went away in a Flight: And Declairs, he was brought to his Bed in the same maner again. As also Confesses, another Night being in Bed in the House of *Walter Alexander* of *Eriken Kirk*, he was taken away in a Flight to a Meeting at the House of *William Montgomry* in *Bargarren* Land, with the Crew, where the

they Strangled his Child about two a Cloak in the Morning, being there present *Margaret Fulton*, *Agnes Nesmith*, *James Lindsay* his Brother, *Alexander Anderson*, and his Wife and two Daughters, *Iohn Lindsay* Bishop, *James Lindsay* Curat, *Margaret Lang* and her Daughter, *Jennet Waugh*, *Margaret Shearer*, *Thomas Woodrow's* Wife in *Coustlop*, *Kathrin Campbel*, the Highland Body, and several others, with the forsaid Gentleman whom they called their Lord; the Main Actors being *Agnes Nesmith* and *Margaret Fulton*, who opened the door of the House, and when they were entred the House went to the Fire side, and lighted a Candle which was blacker then other Candle but somewhat blewish; and none of the house ever stirred or awaked, and heard the said *Agnes Nesmith* say, What if the People of the House awaked? to which *Fulton* replyed you need not fear, which was in the mean time whilst they Strangled the Child with ane sprekled Sea-Napkin, and after committing of the Fact they all went away, the said *Thomas* was brought in a flight to his Bed again.

Likeas Confesses, About five Weeks since or thereby, coming by *Finlastown* about Twelve a Cloak midd day, was taken in a sudden Flight, when he never knew, till he was in *Bargarrins* Ortchyeard, where were present *Margaret Fulton*, *John* and *James Lindsays* Bishop and Curat, the Highland Body, *Jennet VVaugh*, *Margaret Shearer*, *Margaret Lang* and her Daughter, *Thomas VVoodrow's* Wife, *John Reid* Smith, *John Steuart* and his Wife, the *Gentle VVife* called by the Crew *Antiochia*, *Thomas Birkmyres* Wife, *James Lindsay* his own Brother, *Alexander Anderson* his Wife and two Daughters, *John Lindsay* in *Barloch*, and the foresaid Gentleman whom they called their Lord, who played on a Pipe and they all Danced, and after the merry fit they fell a consulting about the destroying of *Christian Shaw* Daughter to *Bargarrin*, where some of them were for Stabbing her with Pins, some for Stabbing with a Tuck, some for hanging her with a Cord, some for get-

ing her out of the House to destroy her, but declares he heard them all consent to the making of her Picture against the next time, but fearing they should be apprehended ere the time. Their Lord gave them ane peice of ane Uncrissened bairns Liver, except himself his Brother and *Elizabeth Anderson*; And he told them tho they were apprehended they should never confess, after the eating of that, do to them never so much. And after the Meeting was ended, which continued about two hours space the said *Thomas Lindsay* was caried back to the verry same place from which he was taken away.

THE

THE Copy of a Letter SENT,

From *Bargarrens* Lady to him, being then at *Ranfren*, dated *Febr.* 18. 1697.

My Dear,

I Thought it fit to give you ane Account of *Chriſtians* Condition, this day about two a Clock in the Afternoon ſhe ſaid ſhe ſaw the *Devil* in likneſs of a Man, ſhe ſeemed to be ſomewhat feared, and I deſired her to ſay *The Lord Rebuke thee Satan*, but the uſe of her Tongue was taken from her, yet recovering it in a ſhort ſpace ſhe aſayed to ſpeak, but was preſently ſeiſed with a Fit, and when that was over ſhe went about the Room deaf and blind as you your ſelf have ſeen her before, but ſtill ſpeakling, as to a Bumbee, ſaid, *With the Lords Strength thou ſhalt not put Straw nor Stiks into my Mouth*, houlding her hand faſt on her Mouth all the while, then walking a litle faſter

she cryed out, the *Bumbee is Stinging me*, and sitting down looked on her Leg where was the Impression very deep, of [illegible]. The Blood appeared to her again in the Bed [illegible], she standing at the Bed-side reasoned with him after this manner; *Thou thinks to make me a Witch but through God's Strength thou shalt never be the better; I charge thee in the Name of God to be gon and thy Papers too, for I will have non of them, I will not fear thy ill, stand here see if thou dare come one stop nearer me: I think thou art fearedee for me then I for thee*; then turning she went up and down the Room as before, and again was bitten with Teeth in the hands very deep, and Impressed with Nails of Fingers more than twenty four times, which made her cry aloud every time she received them, and shewing the place where she was hurt by getting her hand upon it; but we neither saw nor heard any thing about her. She continued in this Fit from two a Clock till past five at night, she said in the Fit *Margaret Long* had given orders to Torment her, so by the Lass you will get a fuller account; till meeting; I remain

Your, &c.

Sic Subscribitur,

Christian M'gilchrist.

FINIS.